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Typed or Printed Name	Margaret D. Pierce	Express Mail No.	EL 563 388 <i>761</i>
Signature		Date	March 23, 2001
<b>PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</b>  <b>Address to:</b> <b>BOX PATENT APPLICATION</b> <b>Assistant Commissioner for Patents</b> <b>Washington, D.C. 20231</b>		Attorney Docket	<b>06510223CON2</b>
		First Named Inventor	<b>Bhatnagar</b>
		Application Number	<b>Unassigned</b>
		Filing Date	<b>Herewith (March 23, 2001)</b>
		Group Art Unit	<b>Unassigned</b>
		Examiner Name	<b>Unassigned</b>
		Title: "Synthetic Compounds and Compositions with Enhanced Cell Binding"	

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-9.

Please add new claims 10-15 as follows:

10. (New) A therapeutic composition usable for tissue repair comprising:

- (a) a biologically compatible implant; and
- (b) a peptide associated with said implant, said peptide having cell binding which is enhanced with respect to collagen.

11. (New) The therapeutic composition of claim 10, wherein said biologically compatible implant comprises a polymeric hydrogel.

12. (New) The therapeutic composition of claim 10, wherein said peptide is selected from Gly-Thr-Pro-Gly-Pro-Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg-Gly-Val-Val (SEQ ID NO: 1), Gly-Pro-Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 2), Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 3), Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg

(SEQ ID NO: 4), Phe-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Phe (SEQ ID NO: 5), Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 6), and Gln-Gly-Ala-Ile-Ala-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 7).

13. (New) A cartilage repair composition for treatment of arthritis, comprising a peptide with a domain that mimics the cell binding of collagen, said peptide exhibiting cell binding greater than that of collagen, said peptide being selected from Gly-Thr-Pro-Gly-Pro-Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg-Gly-Val-Val (SEQ ID NO: 1), Gly-Pro-Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 2), Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 3), Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 4), Phe-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Phe (SEQ ID NO: 5), Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 6), and Gln-Gly-Ala-Ile-Ala-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 7).

14. (New) A method for promoting osteogenic cell growth, comprising:

- (a) providing particles of hydroxylapatite;
- (b) coating said hydroxylapatite particles with a solution of a synthetic peptide that simulates the binding of collagen to cells;
- (c) incorporating said particles into a biologically compatible gel; and
- (d) exposing said gel to cells.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said peptide used in said coating comprises a peptide selected from Gly-Thr-Pro-Gly-Pro-Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg-Gly-Val-Val (SEQ ID NO: 1), Gly-Pro-Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 2), Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 3), Gln-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 4), Phe-Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Phe (SEQ ID NO: 5), Gly-Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 6), and Gln-Gly-Ala-Ile-Ala-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 7).

No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

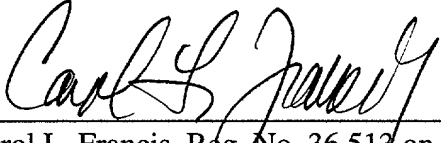
**REMARKS**

Originally filed claims 1-9 have been cancelled and new claims 10-15 have been added to more distinctly point out and describe the invention disclosed in the application filed herewith.

This amendment is being filed with an Appendix of Pending Claims and a transmittal letter/fee sheet. In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that extensions or other relief is required and/or fees are due, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0815 for any fees due in connection with the filing of this document.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 23, 2001

By:   
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**APPENDIX OF PENDING CLAIMS FOR:  
“SYNTHETIC COMPOUNDS AND COMPOSITIONS WITH ENHANCED CELL BINDING”  
FILED HEREWITH (MARCH 23, 2001)**

10. (New) A therapeutic composition usable for tissue repair comprising:

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